

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, MY

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER MEETS WITH STATE GOVERNMENTS ON IMPLEMENTATION

OF THIRD MALAYSIA PLAN

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. ON APRIL 27 PRIME MINISTER HUSSEIN MET WITH ALL MENTRIS BESAR AND CHIEF MINISTERS TO REVIEW IMPLEMENTATION OF SECOND FIVE YEAR PLAN, TO DISCUSS STRATEGIES, OBJECTIVES AND ALLOCATIONS FOR THIRD FIVE YEAR PLAN, AND TO DISCUSS SECOND PHASE OF GREEN BOOK PLAN WHICH CALLS FOR MODERNIZATION OF AGRICULTURE ON COMMERCIAL SCALE IN CERTAIN AREAS.

2. PRIME MINISTER DIRECTED MENTRIS BESAR AND CHIEF MINISTERS TO COORDINATE AND REORGANIZE THEIR RESPECTIVE STATE MACHINERIES TO INSURE SMOOTH IMPLEMENTATION OF THE THIRD DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND URGED THEM TO IMPLEMENT THIRD PLAN PROJECTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SCHEDULE. PRIME MINISTER HUSSEIN NOTED THAT THERE MUST BE CLOSER COORDINATION BETWEEN DISTRICT, STATE AND FEDERAL ADMINISTRATIVE MACHINERIES TO INSURE SMOOTH IMPLEMENTATION OF THE THIRD PLAN AND REMINDED HEADS OF STATE GOVERNMENTS THAT MORE CONCERTED STEPS MUST BE TAKEN TO INSTILL IN THE PEOPLE A SENSE OF INDEPENDENCE AND SELF-

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RELiance AND TO GAIN THEIR CONFIDENCE AND SUPPORT. THE

PRIME MINISTER EMPHASIZED THAT SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAN WAS REQUIRED IN ORDER TO FORGE A JUST AND PROSPEROUS SOCIETY, TO IMPROVE THE STANDARD OF LIVING OF THE PEOPLE AND TO OVERCOME THE COMMUNIST THREAT. HE NOTED THAT THE PROBLEMS OF POVERTY AND DEVELOPMENT MUST BE OVERCOME AS A FUNCTION OF EASING THE SECURITY SITUATION. HE NOTED THAT THE PLAN'S PRIORITY WAS TO ERADICATE POVERTY IRRESPECTIVE OF RACE AND TO FULFILL THE RISING EXPECTATIONS OF THE PEOPLE. HE EMPHASIZED THE NEED FOR MORE DYNAMIC POLITICAL LEADERSHIP IN ORDER TO INSURE THE SMOOTH OPERATION AND EFFICIENCY OF ADMINISTRATIVE MACHINERY AT ALL LEVELS. END UNCLASSIFIED.

3. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. COMMENT: THIS WAS THE FIRST MEETING OF THE PRIME MINISTER WITH MENTRIS BESAR AND CHIEF MINISTERS SINCE HE BECAME PRIME MINISTER. THE THRUST OF HIS MESSAGE IS, OF COURSE, WELL-DIRECTED TO IMPROVE THE OPERATION AND EFFICIENCY OF STATE GOVERNMENTS, WHOSE PERFORMANCES HAVE BEEN MIXED IN CARRYING OUT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS. GENERALLY, THE WEAKER SEDC'S TEND TO BE PERLIS, KEDAH, PERAK, KELANTAN AND TRENGANNU WHICH, OF COURSE, ARE PRINCIPAL AREAS OF RURAL POVERTY AND INSURGENCY. A STRONGER ROLE BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND GREATER COORDINATION BETWEEN GOVERNMENT AND DEVELOPMENT ENTITIES IS DESIRABLE AND NEEDED. THE MEETING FURTHER CONFIRMS THE PRIME MINISTER'S INTENTION OF EMPHASIZING THE LINKAGE BETWEEN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNAL SECURITY. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. UNDERHILL

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